

the remainder of her duty on another ship.

As if the horrifying assault and subsequent mistreatment of Petty Officer De Roche is not heartbreaking enough, her predators didn't get the punishment they deserved. In fact, something very different. Instead of court-martialing the predators, her command decided to handle the rapes with so-called nonjudicial punishments. The punishment required the rapists to admit their crimes—so they admitted them. They got 6 months docked pay and a reduced rank for only one of the rapists. Both of the rapists were permitted to remain on active duty. When command informed Petty Officer De Roche of the outcome, they also advised her to "accept the situation" and refrain from speaking out against the lack of punishment or accountability.

Petty Officer De Roche's story, like many others, highlights a system that is unimaginable to so many of us and a system that is so clearly broken. In the military, a base commander has complete authority and discretion over how a degrading and violent assault under his command is handled. The commander can issue virtually any punishment for any reason. If they don't want a black mark on their record or their friends were accused or if they simply don't know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist.

My bill, H.R. 3435, the Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention Act, the STOP Act, takes this issue and puts it in the hands of others who can handle it appropriately.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 17 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Roger Schoolcraft, Fayetteville, Arkansas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and most high God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You led our Forefathers to weave Your presence in the fabric of our Nation. Move us also to acknowledge and trust Your presence among us daily. And although we may face many obstacles and adversities, continue to shower us with Your mercy that we may recover.

Today, we thank You for healing our Nation from the attack on Pearl Harbor 70 years ago. We are grateful for all

those who sacrifice their lives to preserve our freedom. O Lord, may we not squander it. Bless all wounded warriors, veterans and their families. Fill them and us with Your peace and joy this Christmas season.

Give us wisdom, and lead us by Your Spirit that the choices made here would result in our country united, an economy restored, and hearts grateful for Your loving care through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND ROGER SCHOOLCRAFT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, today it is my privilege to introduce Reverend Roger Schoolcraft of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft retired from the ministry in 2008 after nearly 40 years in the ministry, serving congregations in Iowa, Nebraska and, most recently, in northwest Arkansas, where he led St. John's Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft was called to the ministry in 1953 after accepting an invitation from a friend to attend a Sunday school class at St. John's Lutheran Church in Rochester, Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Schoolcraft's service extends well beyond the walls of the church. He served as campus pastor of the Lutheran Student Center at the University of Arkansas. He was a circuit counselor for 11 years and was assistant dean and dean for two national campus missionary institutes. Locally, he was president of Cooperative Emergency Outreach, secretary-treasurer of the Fayetteville Ministerial Alliance, and treasurer for the Council of Religious Organizations.

Reverend Schoolcraft is married to Deborah Steen Schoolcraft; and they have two children, Andrea and Aaron.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I want to thank Reverend Schoolcraft for his long-

standing devotion to the ministry, the churches he has served, and his fellow man.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

WHAT A GAME

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the gentleman from Illinois, Congressman RANDY HULTGREN, on winning our friendly wager on the MAC football championship game last Friday. The participants in the game, Ohio University and Northern Illinois University, are located in the districts that we are privileged to represent.

The game was an instant classic. Both teams left everything on the field and gave it their all and, in the process, made their universities and their fans proud.

The OU Bobcats jumped out to an early lead, but the Huskies of Northern Illinois fought back. They showed their toughness and won the game on the game's final play. Another way to say it is that OU won the first half and that Northern Illinois won the second half. Both teams were worthy of participation in the game, but it's a shame that either team had to come out on the losing end.

I am very proud of the OU Bobcats, and I look forward to watching both teams compete in their bowl games and represent their schools in the same fashion they did last Friday night.

Congratulations to Congressman HULTGREN.

SUPPORT THE PAYROLL TAX EXTENSION

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. A huge tax increase is looming unless this House takes action immediately. Unless this House takes action in the next few weeks, a typical American household earning \$50,000, \$60,000 a year will see a tax increase of \$1,000 a year on payroll taxes—yes, Madam Speaker, a \$1,000 tax increase for middle class families, many of whom have not seen any raises or increases for several years due to the recession.

People who are struggling to support their families will see a \$1,000 tax increase if this body does not act in the next several weeks. This is a tax increase that most families haven't budgeted for and haven't prepared for. They

haven't assumed that this Congress is as dysfunctional as it potentially is if we fail to renew this tax increase. We shouldn't let our dysfunction in this body harm the middle class and the American people.

I call upon my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support renewing the payroll tax extension to make sure that middle class families are not slapped with a \$1,000-plus tax increase next year.

SIXTEEN DAYS AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Sehar, a Pakistani woman in an arranged marriage, was constantly raped and abused by her husband. He accused her of becoming a doctor only to attract men. He blamed her for the miscarriage that she had, and he constantly beat her. He was angry when she gave birth to two girls rather than to two boys, and he was an abuser of the girls and his wife.

Sehar and her daughters were able to escape to the United States to find safety. She will not go back to Pakistan because her former husband's family says they will kill her.

Violence against women, unfortunately, is too common of a plight for women throughout the world. My grandmother used to tell me that you never hurt somebody you claim you love. As the leader of the free world, it is critical that the United States promote this simple truth throughout this country and other countries:

Every person has the right to a life free of violence.

I want to thank the gentlelady from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for bringing this to the attention of the Members of Congress as we reflect on this fact during these 16 days against gender violence.

And that's just the way it is.

THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT, AN AFFRONT TO AMERICA'S VALUES

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, in 1996 Congress passed the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA. It was then, as it still is today, an affront to our country's values—the values we hold true as established in the Declaration of Independence, those of life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and of equality and fairness for all.

On October 7 of this year, I held a field forum in Chicago, along with my colleague JAN SCHAKOWSKY, to hear from legal experts and gay and lesbian couples about the real-world harm caused by DOMA. The findings were startling. I ask that the clerk enter all of their testimony into the RECORD to

formally document this collection of unfairness and inequity, burdens that are imposed on normal Americans who are just trying to live normal lives.

It is incomprehensible that today we are still dealing with such injustice. Congress created this injustice, and Congress should correct it. Let the RECORD reflect these sentiments.

LET'S REIN IN THE REGULATORS

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, \$1.75 trillion annually—America's job creators are buried under the regulatory burden of about \$1.75 trillion annually.

The cost of the regulatory burden from new regulations just this year is \$67.4 billion, which is larger than the entire State budget of Illinois, my home State. Studies and polls have shown us time and again that the regulations are a hidden form of taxation; and just as our Tax Code is in need of reform, so is our regulatory system.

That's why I'm proud to support the REINS Act. This commonsense bill will require that Congress approve every new major regulation proposed by the executive branch in order to ensure that Congress, not unelected bureaucrats, retain control and accountability for the impact of government on the American people.

Unless Congress acts decisively, this unchecked regulatory state will only grow bigger and make things more complicated. Let's pass the REINS Act, and let's give our job creators the certainty they need to grow, expand, and put Americans back to work.

□ 1210

TAXES

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, this year will be a very difficult holiday season for millions of Americans looking for jobs. Sadly, these families are not getting the help they deserve from the Republicans here in Congress.

We have now reached 337 days of Republican control here in the House, and we still do not have a jobs plan from the Republicans.

Benefits for over 6 million unemployed Americans are about to expire. And now, to make matters worse, Republicans are creating uncertainty for the 160 million middle class families by stalling and extending the payroll tax cut.

Why are these Americans forced to wait? Because Republicans refuse to ask those making more than a million dollars to pay their fair share. Millionaires are not paying their fair share.

We must act now on those lifelines of the middle class and allow the Bush tax cuts for the ultrarich to expire. No

new taxes, no jobs. No new taxes, no new jobs. We must pass a responsible tax plan that extends the unemployment benefits and gets the economy moving again.

IMPLICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT'S ADDING ADDITIONAL RED TAPE AND ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, as a small business owner, I understand firsthand the implications of the government adding additional red tape and additional regulations. One clear example of this is the Dodd-Frank bill.

The Dodd-Frank bill was supposed to impose clear rules and regulations on the financial industry so that another economic disaster could be averted. However, this single piece of legislation has imposed more uncertainty into the marketplace. The bill imposes literally hundreds of new rules and regulations, most of which haven't even been written yet. As a result, businesses are not growing and they're not creating jobs, and this is in large part because they don't understand what tomorrow will bring.

I did have an opportunity to talk to a smaller bank back in my district that said, We're not growing, with the exception of adding people into our compliance department to cross the T's and dot the I's, but not a single person was hired in order to try to get additional liquidity into the marketplace and help small businesses.

Rather than pile on rule after rule, we should implement smart regulations that truly protect consumers. The last thing we want is another financial disaster, so we should examine the implications of the rules and regulations and ensure that the right regulations are in place and get America back to work.

THE NEED TO PASS PAYROLL TAX CUT

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, the majority has held 891 votes in this Chamber, and we still see no plan for job creation.

To make matters worse, my colleagues across the aisle have now focused their efforts on opposing a tax break for the middle class. They are opposing the extension of the Federal tax holiday enacted earlier this year that gave virtually all working Americans a much needed tax cut, reducing taxes for over 160 million American workers.

Economic uncertainty both here in the U.S. and abroad makes this a dangerous time to eliminate an important tax cut that is saving American families an average of \$1,000 a year. Failing